

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

The drawings and the disclosure stand objected to because a coil was mistakenly identified as feature 81 instead of 92. In response, Applicants have amended the specification to correctly refer to the coil as numeral 92. This should avoid any need to make any changes to the drawings. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding objection to the drawings and specification be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) over Hornby. Applicants respectfully disagree since Hornby does not show anything that could be fairly characterized as a deflection cavity. There should be no dispute that the MPEP and relevant case law require that a cited reference disclose exactly what an Applicant has claimed in order to support a §102(b) rejection. In this case, this can only be done in the case of Hornby by ignoring Applicants' term "deflection cavity", which should have been attributed at least some scintilla of meaning. But that term is actually abundant with meaning when the term is read consistent with Applicants' specification, as required by the MPEP. Therefore, the outstanding rejections base on Hornby should be withdrawn. However, in order to better prevent Applicants' claims from being misread onto anything fairly taught by Hornby, Applicants have amended claim 1 to make it clear that the deflection cavity has a centerline passing therethrough. There should be no dispute that the region of Hornby through which its centerline 20 passes is occupied by a valve stem and a protruding portion of the thing 12 identified as its carrier. Therefore, Applicants again respectfully request that the outstanding rejections against claims 1 and 6 be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 6 should be allowable over and above the reasons set forth with regard to claim 1 since it requires that the stator assembly include one of a male and female electrical connector. Hornby on the other hand, merely teaches electrical leads extending from the solenoid carrier, but shows no male or female electrical connector. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn, since the claim language cannot properly be read onto mere wires, as in Hornby. However, in order to

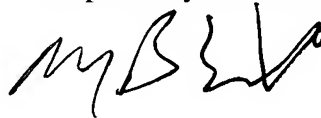
better prevent Applicants' claims from being misread onto anything fairly taught by Hornby, Applicants have amended claim 6 to make it clear that the male and female electrical connectors are socket connectors. There should be no dispute that the wires of Hornby are not within any fair reading of Applicants' claimed electrical socket connectors.

Claims 23-25 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) over Huang et al. Applicants respectfully disagree since the thing 32 identified as the Huang ball valve seat is not located in the thing 24 identified as the Huang et al. carrier. Instead, the Huang seat is located in a valve seat component 3 that is different from item 24. Since a proper §102(b) rejection requires that a reference disclose exactly what an Applicant has claimed, because the office action does not even assert that Huang et al. does this, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding §102(b) rejections based upon Huang et al. be withdrawn.

Claims 9-22 stand allowed, and claims 2-5 and 7-8 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants appreciate that indication of allowable subject matter, and have amended claims 2, 3, 5 and 7 into independent form. A check in the amount of \$800.00 is attached to cover the excess claim fee. No extension of time is believed necessary for the filing of this amendment and response. However, the Director is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment regarding the claim fees or possible extension of time to deposit account number 500226.

This application is believed to be in condition for allowance of claims 1-25. However, if the Examiner believes that some minor additional amendment or clarification would overcome the restriction requirement or otherwise put the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (812) 333-5355 in order to hasten the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MyB McNeil', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael B. McNeil

Reg. No. 35,949